

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 01181 142154 Z

20

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

OMB-01 GAC-01 T-03 AID-20 PC-04 RSR-01 /112 W
----- 054402

R 142123 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7697

CONFIDENTIAL SANTO DOMINGO 1181

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, DR

SUBJECT: JUAN BOSCH BRIEFLY REAPPEARS

1. IN THE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 12, PRD PRESIDENT JUAN BOSCH
MOEMENTARILY EMERGED FROM HIDING TO MAKE A SHORT PUBLIC STATEMENT
AT THE PRD NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

2. DEVELOPING A PROPOSAL THAT HE HAD MADE IN A LETTER TO THE
PRESS ON MARCH 7, BOSCH TOLD AN ASSEMBLAGE OF NEWSMEN AND PRD
LEADERS THAT THE PARTY SHOULD UNDERTAKE " AN UNCOMPROMISING BATTLE
TO ESTABLISH IN THE COUNTRY A GOVERNMENT" WHICH WOULD RESPECT THE
LAWS. " ALL THE PEOPLE SHOULD FIGHT AGAINST THE ILLEGAL GOVERNMENT
AND FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GOVERNMENT WHICH RESPECTS THE LAW."
BOSCH INVITED OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES AND GROUPS TO JOIN THE PRD
IN THIS ENDEAVOR. BOSCH SUGGESTED THAT THIS NEW POLICY, IF ACCEPTED
BY THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, WOULD REPLACE THE PRESENT PRD
POLICY " OF FORCING THE GOVERNMENT TO RESPECT ITS OWN LEGALITY."
HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, DELINEATE THE SPECIFIC TACTICAL DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN THE OLD AND THE NEW POLICY.

3. BOSCH DEPARTED THE PRD HEADQUARTERS IMMEDIATELY AFTER MAKING
THE STATEMENT, APPARENTLY TO RETURN TO HIDING.

4. THE GODR, THROUGH A PUBLIC STATEMENT ISSUED LATER THE SAME
DAY BY THE GOVERNMENT PRESS SECRETARY, CESAR HERRERA, REACTED
STRONGLY TO THE BOSCH STATEMENT: " THE PROPOSAL WHICH (BOSCH) HAS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANTO 01181 142154 Z

JUST MADE TO THE LEADERS OF HIS PARTY, IN TERMS MORE APPROPRIATE TO A PROFESSIONAL AGITATOR THAN TO AN IMPORTANT POLITICIAN, PLACE HIM AND HIS PARTY AT THE MARGIN OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAW AND EXPOSE THEM TO WHATEVER MEASURE, NO MATTER HOW DRASIC, THE AUTHORITIES FEEL NECESSARY TO PRESERVE PEACE AND ORDER IN THE COUNTRY." HERRERA SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE GODR WOULD TAKE NO PRECIPITOUS ACTION. THE NEXT STEP WAS UP TO BOSCH. NEVERTHELESS, THE GODR DID MOVE TO LIMIT RADIO AND TELEVISION COVERAGE OF THE BOSCH STATEMENT. THE DIRECTOR OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS WARNED THAT THE GODR WOULD CLOSE ANY RADIO OR TELEVISION STATION BROADCASTING THE STATEMENT.

5. THE PRESS CHOSE TO INTERPRET BOSCH' S STATEMENT MORE SYMPATHETICALLY THAN DID THE GODR. LISTIN DIARIO EDITORIALIZED ON MARCH 13 THAT BOSCH HAD NOT THREATENED THE GOVERNMENT WITH VIOLENCE BUT HAD ONLY CALLED FOR ACTIVE OPPOSITION PARTY PARTICIPATION IN THE 1974 ELECTIONS. EL NACIONAL AGREED WITH THIS INTERPRETATION AND CALLED BOSCH' S STATEMENT A REPETITION OF THE " ASPIRATIONS" OF MANY DOMINICANS. BOTH PAPERS ADMITTED , HOWEVER, THAT THE STATEMENT COULD, IF ONE WANTED TO DO SO, BE TAKEN AS A CALL TO VIOLENCE.

6. THE OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES REACTED CAUTIOUSLY TO THE STATEMENT. THE PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO SOCIAL CRISTIANO (PRSC) AND THE MOVIMIENTO DE INTEGRACION DEMOCRATICA (MIDA) PUBLICLY STATED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE PRD TO DEFINE FURTHER THE NEW POLICY BEFORE EXPRESSING AN OPINION. THE PARTIDO QUISQUEYANO DEMOCRATA (PQD) SIDE- STEPPING THE ISSUE ENTIRELY, AVERRED THAT THE GODR SHOULD GUARANTEE FREEDOM OF POLITICAL ACTION TO BOSCH, AND THE PRD. THE BALAGUERISTA GROUP, MOVIMIENTO NACIONAL DE LA JUVENTUD, ISSUED A DECLARATION WHICH TERMED THE STATEMENT " A CALL TO SUBVERSION" AND ASKED THAT BOSCH BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL FOR " ATTEMPTS AGAINST THE SECURITY OF THE STATE."

7. COMMENT: BOSCH' S STATEMENT CLARIFIED LITTLE. HIS PUBLIC APPEARANCE, HOWEVER, DID KEEP THE PRD AND ITS PRESENT PLIGHT BEFORE THE PUBLIC. ANALYZING THE OPTIONS OPEN TO THE PRD, PERHAPS PUBLICITY WAS ALL BOSCH HOPED TO ATTAIN BY HIS APPEARANCE. INDEED, AT THIS TIME, LITTLE ELSE IS FEASIBLE; THE PRD PROBABLY CANNOT ORGANIZE AND LEAD A SUCCESSFUL STROKE, ILLEGAL MASS DEMONSTRATIONS WOULD BE DANGEROUS IF NOT SUICIDAL AND, STREET VIOLENCE IS UNLIKELY BECAUSE THE PRD DOES NOT HAVE THE CADRE TO CARRY IT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANTO 01181 142154 Z

OUT.

8. IT IS CURIOUS THAT BOSCH, MOST OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (CEN), AND VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE RADIO AND PRESS CORPS COULD HAVE ASSEMBLED AT THE PRD HEADQUARTERS WITHOUT ATTRACTING OFFICIAL NOTICE. BOSCH'S ABILITY TO SLIP IN AND OUT OF HIDING WITH SUCH EASE LENDS ADDITIONAL WEIGHT TO THE WIDELY HELD VIEW THAT THE GODR IN FACT KNOWS WHERE HE IS HIDING.

MELOY

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANTO01181
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730328/aaaahsqb.tel
Line Count: 127
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30-Jan-2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971202
Subject: JUAN BOSCH BRIEFLY REAPPEARS
TAGS: PGOV, DR
To: ARA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005